

JO DAVIESS COUNTY'S WEBSITE AND EMAIL ADDRESS WILL TRANSFER TO .GOV DOMAIN

Jo Daviess County's Government website and email will soon transfer to a .GOV domain, elevating the County's cybersecurity and online presence credibility. The federal agency known as [CISA](#), the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, sponsors the [.GOV top-level domain](#) and makes it available exclusively to US-based government organizations and publicly controlled entities. Government sites go through rigorous vetting and security protocols before being approved for a .GOV domain.

.GOV domain names cannot be used by commercial or political organizations. They also cannot be used for malicious cyber activity because they are not issued on a first-come, first-serve basis. They are considered the most secure and trusted domains.

The .GOV domain increases security by enforcing multi-factor authentication on all accounts in the .GOV registrar, different than commercial registrars, and .GOV domains require web browsers to only use a secure HTTPS connection. This protects website visitors' privacy and ensures the content published on the Jo Daviess County website and emails that land in recipients' inboxes are accurate and genuine.

The new .GOV domain name for Jo Daviess County Government is: **jodaviesscountyl.gov**.

Jo Daviess County will begin the transition of the jodaviess.org website and email to jodaviesscountyl.gov on May 11, 2022 to be completed by June 17, 2022.

When the change takes place, the jodaviess.org domain will continue to work and redirect users to the new jodaviesscountyl.gov website with the same content. All saved links and jodaviess.org email addresses will also continue to work. Jo Daviess County will be conducting outreach to residents, vendors and others to update email address books and contact lists.

The reason for doing this transition is to assure the public that when visiting the County's website or receiving an email from jodaviesscountyl.gov, that it is legitimate and secure and you are indeed doing business with Jo Daviess County Government.

